

La Mama presents a Mystery Radio Theatre production of
CORPUS DELICTI!
APRIL 9 - 14, 2024 AT LA MAMA COURTHOUSE

An old-fashioned murder mystery comedy. But can you guess the killer?

From Agatha Christie to Knives Out, why do we continue to enjoy watching murder transformed into a game and crime turned into a puzzle? In the heightened, stylised world of the mystery, death is... smashing fun. *Corpus Delicti!* continues the fine tradition of the comedy whodunit with a locked-room murder committed by a secret assassin on an isolated, tropical island. There's a set of possible suspects, a stylish, martini-drinking detective and a few impossible murders. Oh, and the killer might be a werewolf.



Corpus Delicti! gives fans of the genre everything they crave from a whodunit, while also being a funny and knowing satire (and celebration) of the genre itself. It is written by James Hazelden and Nicholas Rasche.

"We try to take mystery elements that are only in novels and see if we can do them on stage", says Hazelden. "Werewolf legends are easy to write about, but you don't see them portrayed on stage very often. Of course, as it is a comedy, we'll do it particularly stupidly."

Corpus Delicti! sees Kathryn Tohill and Chris Saxton reprising their roles of chic detective, Vera Brady and her dim ex-husband, John. While these characters have appeared in other plays, this is a new, stand-alone story. The suspects are played by Matthew McDonald (the prim secretary), Mark Woodward (the macho bodyguard), Amanda Buckley (the elderly Nanny) and Chris Tomkins (the drunken groundskeeper).

**For full dates, times & details see the next page
 or check La Mama's [website](#)**



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La Mama is financially assisted by Creative Victoria (Creative Enterprises Program), and the City of Melbourne (Arts and Creative Partnership Program). We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community. Thank you!

LA MAMA PRESENTS AS PART OF THE 2024 MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL
CORPUS DELICTI! CREATED BY MYSTERY RADIO THEATRE

"A sublimely silly and frenetically farcical comedy..."
– Peter Green, The Melbourne Observer

"...a surreal journey that builds in ludicrousness. The script is witty and fresh, keeping the audience guessing and trying to understand the absurdities that take place – only to be surprised." – Lucinda Naughton, Theatre Travels

Co-writer & director Hazelden says, "The audience gets to see a fun, rapid-fire comedy play, but they also get a real whodunit. When a killer is revealed to an audience, or another body is discovered, the audience will often gasp or laugh nervously. I love that sound".

Corpus Delicti! opens at the La Mama Courthouse (349 Drummond Street, Carlton) on 9 April for the 2024 Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Performed by Amanda Buckley, Matthew McDonald, Chris Saxton, Kathryn Tohill, Chris Tomkins and Mark Woodward

Directed by James Hazelden

Written and produced by James Hazelden and Nicholas Rasche

Lighting and sound design by Allan Hirons

Photos and images by Chris Tomkins

Season (running time 55 mins)

Tuesday April 9 7.30pm

Wednesday April 10 7.30pm

Thursday April 11 7.30pm

Friday April 12 7.30pm

Saturday April 13 4pm & 7.30pm

Sunday April 14 1pm & 4pm

Bookings: <https://lamama.com.au/whats-on/autumn-2024/corpus-delicti/>

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